

Ridgefield Downtown and School Connections

Ridgefield Community Center

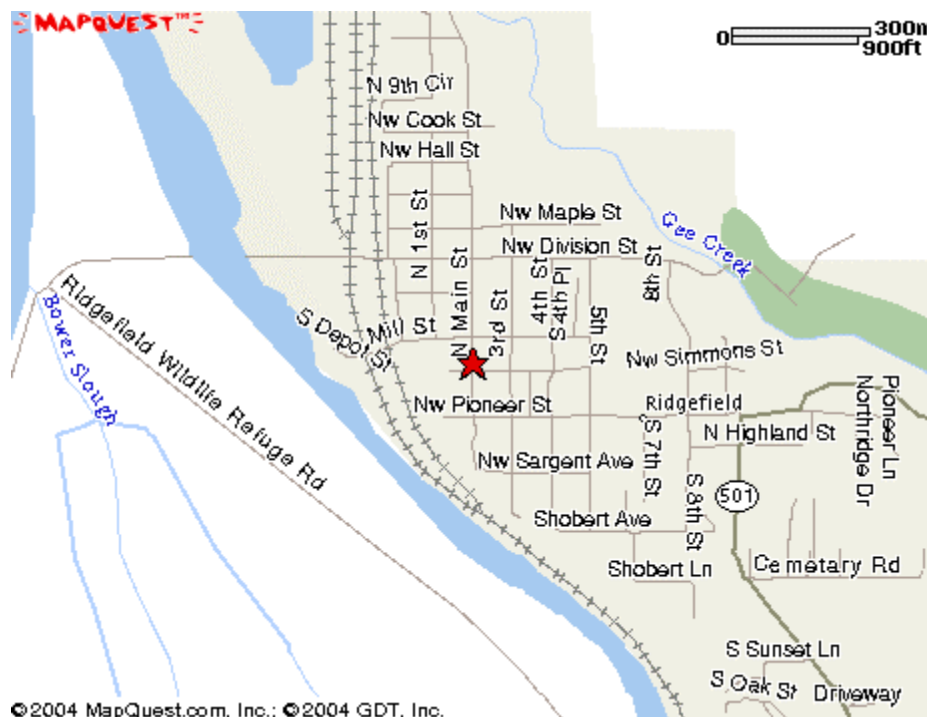
Wednesday, May 12, 2004

5:30 pm to 9:15 pm

210 N. Main, Ridgefield, WA

Contact: Lynda David at (360) 397-6067 x5205

The City of Ridgefield will host a Walkable Community Workshop focused on the downtown area. Ridgefield is a small city with a population of 2,185 but is poised to see significant growth in the next twenty years. Employment opportunities are attracted to the I-5 Ridgefield Junction area, nearly 3 miles to the east of downtown. The City's downtown is the gateway to the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, Lake River and the Columbia River. Downtown Ridgefield has schools, parks, civic center activities and unique retail establishments for browsing. The Walkable Community Workshop will address pedestrian access to these activity centers, provide information on community design for the pedestrian and consider how a walkable community can help to maintain Downtown's charm and support its attractions.



From Vancouver:

North on I-5

Take Ridgefield Exit --
269th Street/SR501

Left on SR501

Right on Main Street

Highway 99 Revitalization Project

Best Inn & Suites

Thursday, May 13, 2004

8:30 am to 12:30 pm

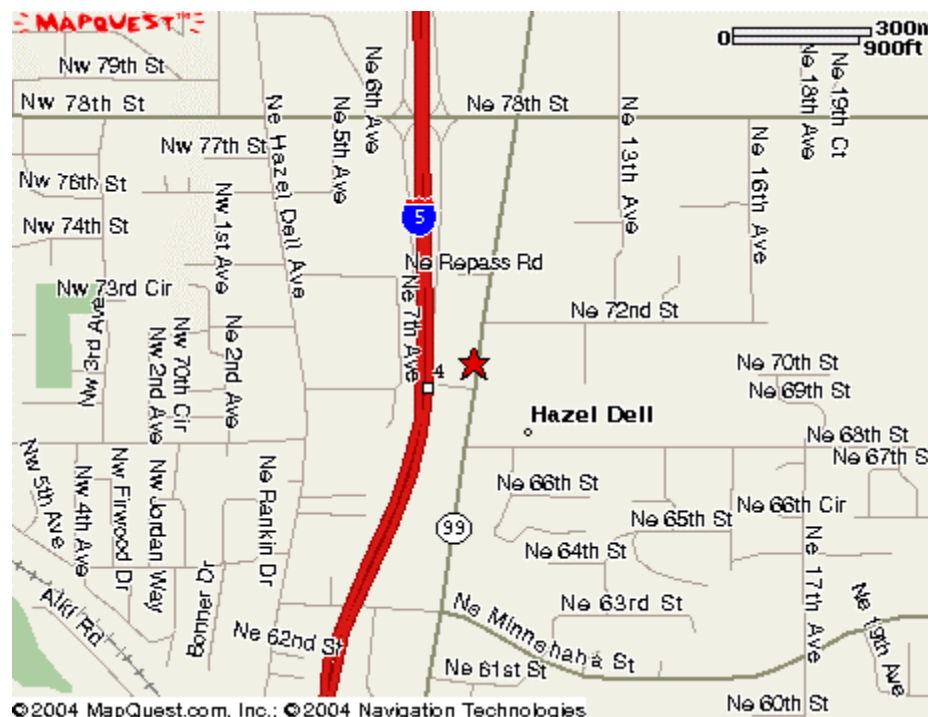
7001 NE Hwy 99, Vancouver, WA

Contact: Elise Scolnick at (360) 397-2375 x4958

A grassroots community group of concerned residents, businesses, and property owners formed "Team 99" to launch a concentrated revitalization effort for the Highway 99 corridor. Improving the community's walkability is a key element for community enhancement, revitalization, and economic development. The Highway 99 Walkable Community Workshop will provide a unique opportunity to evaluate the pedestrian and bicycle environment of Highway 99 and provide recommendations for improvement projects.

Taking C-TRAN to the workshop

The Best Inn & Suites is located on the eastside of Highway 99, between 63rd Street and 78th Street. From the Seventh Street Transit Center catch the #71 Highway 99 route. Route #71 makes connections at 7th Street Transit Center and Salmon Creek Park & Ride. All buses are lift equipped and have bike racks. For more information, call C-TRAN Customer Service at (360) 695-0123.



From Vancouver:

North on I-5

Take the 78th Street Exit

Right on 78th Street

Right on Highway 99

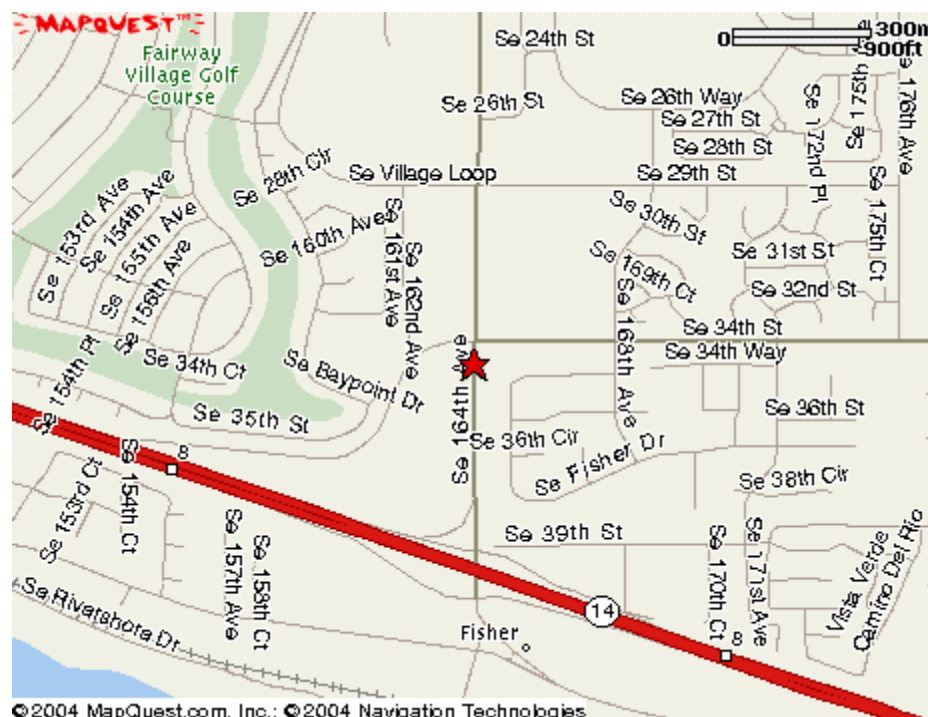
Left into Best Inn
driveway

Contact: Jennifer Campos at (360) 696-8290, ext. 8409

1:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Issues of safety and access are brought up when residents try to leave their neighborhoods in an attempt to reach destinations such as parks, schools, and shopping. Doing this requires people to cross major arterial roadways where signalized intersections are often over 1,000 feet apart. This type of grid network is challenging to pedestrians who in many cases need to walk long distances to the nearest signalized intersection or take their chances crossing at mid-block locations.

Fishers Landing Transit Center is accessible by several C-TRAN urban and commuter routes. From 7th Street Transit Center, take the #37 Mill Plain or #30 Burton Rd. From Vancouver Mall Transit Center, take the #80 Van Mall/Fishers route. From Camas, access the Connector, C-TRAN's Dial-A-Ride service or #92 Camas/Washougal. All C-TRAN buses are lift equipped and have bike racks. For more information, call C-TRAN Customer Service at (360) 695-0123.



Workshop is upstairs in the Rose Besserman's Community Room.

Jim Parsley Center**Friday, May 14, 2004****8:30am to 12:30pm**

Classroom #2

2901 Faulk Road, Vancouver, WA

Contact: Jennifer Campos at (360) 696-8290, ext. 8409

The second of Vancouver's Walkable Community Workshops will be held at the Jim Parsley Center which is located in the Bagley Downs neighborhood. This area of Vancouver contains an older mix of homes, apartments, schools, and commercial also seen in many other parts of the City. However, what makes the neighborhood unique is the new community center that draws people from all over the region and is a major pedestrian and transit attractor.

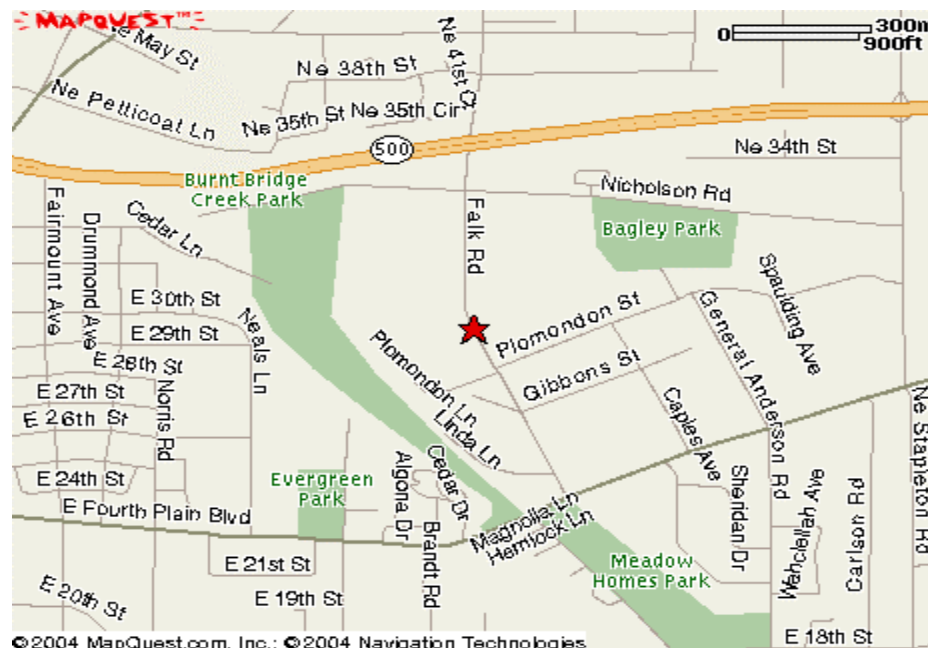
Because of the presence of the community center, schools, homes, and shopping destinations, this area sees a lot of pedestrian travel. Within this area issues have been raised about safe crossing locations and general accessibility. Recent improvements made in front of Roosevelt Elementary School include a pedestrian refuge island to enhance crossings for students, which is a good example of the type of project that may be needed in the area.

The area is bordered on the south by Fourth Plain Boulevard, which is one of the City's busiest and active arterials. In 2003 this roadway was identified by the Washington State Traffic Safety Committee as the state's first Urban Traffic Safety Corridor. It received this designation because of the high collision and fatality rates along the corridor. The state's corridor safety program has been in place for over 13 years, but it has mostly focused on state routes. Fourth Plain Boulevard is the first city corridor to be included in the program that is not on a state route.

There is also a major regional trail that connects north/south through the neighborhood providing another way to access the surrounding community. The Burnt Bridge Creek Greenway comes into the northwest section of the neighborhood near SR 500, and then picks up again south of Fourth Plain. Since there is a gap in the trail system, people use Falk Road as an alternative to continue on the trail, further necessitating the need for improved pedestrian and bicycle access.

Reaching James Parsley Center by transit

James Parsley Center has service on C-TRAN's #4 Fourth Plain seven days/week with connections at 7th Street Transit Center and Vancouver Mall Transit Center. All C-TRAN buses are lift equipped and have bike racks. For more information, call C-TRAN's Customer Service at (360) 695-0123.

**From Downtown Vancouver:**

Take I-5 north

Take SR500 Eastbound

Right on Falk Road

Left on Plomondon

Left into Parking Area